



# LGBT Pride Month

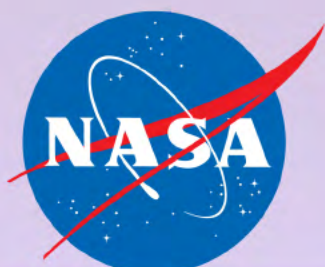
**Lunch and Learn**

**"The Lavender Scare"**

**June 18, 2019**

**12 -1 PM**

**Logtown, Building 1100**



**WISE**  
Women Inspiring  
Stennis' Excellence



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## Lunch and Learn

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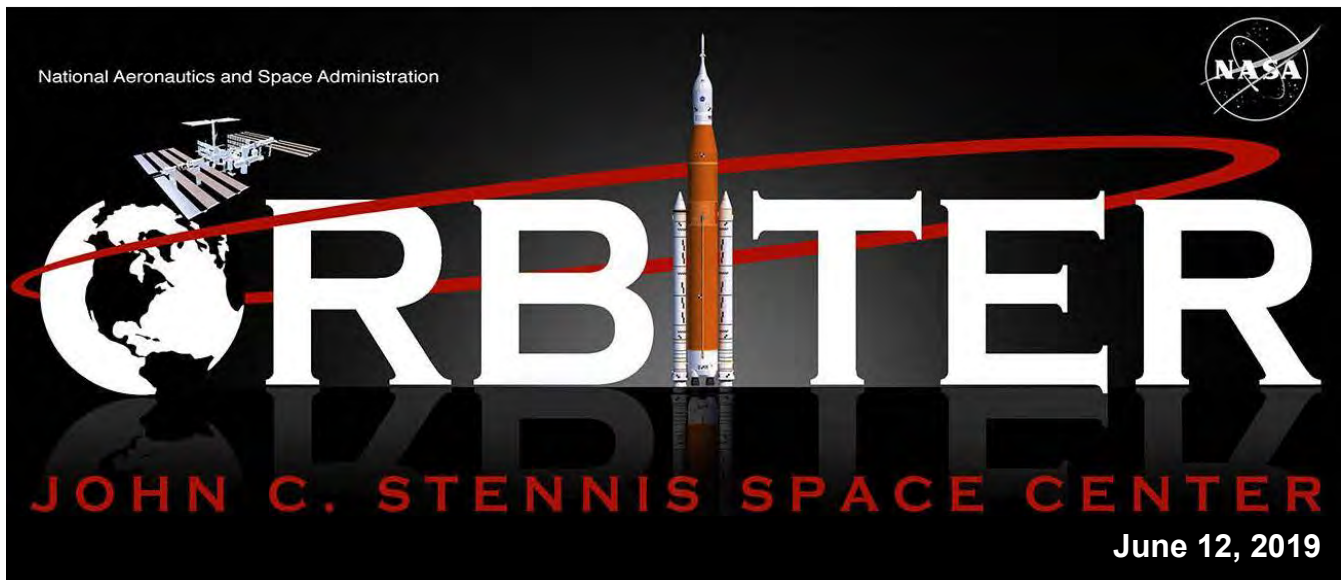
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- *The Moon to Mars Report*
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- *Safety Message: SSC VPP Recertification Audit*
- *The Launch Café Menu, June 17 – June 21*
- *SSC History Article: Endeavor's Last Flight*
- *Photo of the Week: The 2019 NASA Interns Have Arrived!*

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## NRL's 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Seminar Series, June 12

NRL's 9<sup>th</sup> annual summer seminar series continues with Kristine DeLong, Ph.D., associate professor in the Louisiana State University Department of Geography and Anthropology. She will present a talk titled, "The Ancient Underwater Forest: A Time Capsule from the Last Ice Age." The seminar will be held in the StenniSphere auditorium on Wednesday, June 12 at 2:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served. All Stennis personnel are welcome. Students are especially encouraged to attend. Speakers are asked to tailor their talk to a college sophomore level to ensure maximum understanding by the audience.

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## Diversity Awareness: "The Lavender Scare" Documentary Lunch & Learn, June 18

*The Lavender Scare* is a documentary released in June 2019 about the effort started during the Cold War in the 1950's by the U.S. government to rid the federal workforce of homosexuals. Over the next four decades, the longest witch-hunt in American history, tens of thousands of government workers would lose their jobs for no reason other than their sexual orientation.

The mass firings have an unintended effect: they stirred outrage in the gay community, helped ignite the gay rights movement, and thrust an unlikely hero into the forefront of the LGBTQ rights movement. *The Lavender Scare* illuminates a little-known chapter of American history, and serves as a timely reminder of the value of vigilance and social action when civil liberties are under attack.

To celebrate Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month, the Stennis Diversity Council and the Women Inspiring Stennis Excellence (WISE) Employee Resource Group is co-hosting a Lunch & Learn event on **June 18 from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. in the Roy S. Estess Building (1100), Logtown Conference Room**. A facilitated group discussion will follow the video for participants to share and explore their own thoughts about the film.

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## SFA Silver Snoopy Awards Ceremony, June 19

Congratulations to this year's Space Flight Awareness (SFA) Silver Snoopy Award recipients. Astronaut Don Pettit will be presenting the awards in a ceremony scheduled for Wednesday, June 19 at 1:30 p.m. in the StenniSphere auditorium. Employees are invited to attend, but should coordinate attendance with their manager/supervisor. A reception will follow the ceremony. Congratulations to all award recipients!

Silver Snoopy Recipients:

**NASA/SSC:** (b) (6)

**NSSC:** (b) (6)

**Aerojet Rocketdyne:** (b) (6)

**SAIC:** (b) (6)

**SaiTech:** (b) (6)

## **Diversity Awareness: “The Lavender Scare” Documentary Lunch & Learn Tuesday, June 18, 2019**

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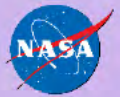


# LGBT Pride Month

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Diversity • Inclusion • Innovation



# LGBT Pride Month

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month is currently celebrated each year in the month of June to honor the 1969 Stonewall riots in Manhattan. The Stonewall riots were a tipping point for the Gay Liberation Movement in the United States. In the United States the last Sunday in June was initially celebrated as "Gay Pride Day," but the actual day was flexible. In major cities across the nation the "day" soon grew to encompass a month-long series of events.

Today, celebrations include pride parades, picnics, parties, workshops, symposia and concerts, and LGBT Pride Month events attract millions of participants around the world. Memorials are held during this month for those members of the community who have been lost to hate crimes or HIV/AIDS. The purpose of the commemorative month is to recognize the impact that lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals have had on history locally, nationally, and internationally.

<https://www.loc.gov/lgbt-pride-month/about/>



# Gay Pride Rainbow Flag



The original gay-pride flag was created and hand-dyed by Gilbert Baker. It flew in the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Parade on June 25, 1978. Since then, the design has undergone several revisions to first remove then re-add colors due to widely available fabrics.

The original flag had eight stripes, with each color representing a particular component of the gay community: hot pink for sexuality, red for life, orange for healing, yellow for sunlight, green for nature, turquoise for the arts, indigo/blue for harmony, and violet for spirit.

As of 2008, the most common variant consists of six stripes, with the colors red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and violet.

The flag is commonly flown horizontally, with the red stripe on top, as it would be in a natural rainbow.

(<https://www.loc.gov/lgbt-pride-month/about/>)



The Gay Rights Movement is a civil rights movement that advocates equal rights for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transsexual individuals. The timeline listed below contains some of the most pivotal events in this movement throughout U.S. and world history.

1924: Henry Gerber founds the Society for Human Rights, the first documented gay rights organization in the United States. The society was chartered by the State of Illinois and published Friendship and Freedom, the first U.S. publication for homosexuals. The Society soon disbands due to political pressures and what Gerber later describes as being “up against a solid wall of ignorance, hypocrisy, meanness, and corruption” (quoted in Williams & Reter, 2003, p. 54).

1928: Radclyffe Hall's lesbian novel, The Well of Loneliness is published. As a result, homosexuality becomes a topic of public conversation in both the United States and England.





1945: Homosexuals remain interned in Nazi concentration camps after liberation by the Allied forces. This is because Paragraph 175 of the German Criminal Code declared homosexual relations between males to be illegal along with acts such as underage sex abuse and bestiality.

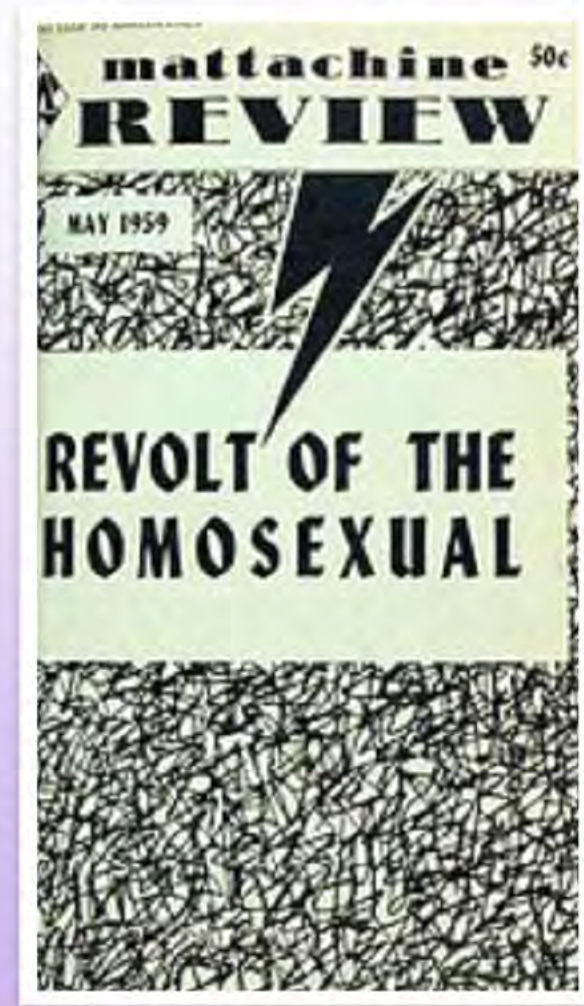




1948: Alfred Kinsey's landmark book, *Sexual Behavior in the Human Male*, is published. Kinsey reports that 37% of men he interviewed had participated in homosexual behavior at least once. Based on his research, Kinsey proposes that sexual orientation lies on a continuum from exclusively homosexual to exclusively heterosexual.

1950: Activist Harry Hay founds the Mattachine Society, one of the earliest homophile/homosexual organizations in the United States. Their goal is to organize and advocate for homosexual rights and to reduce the feelings of isolation that many gays and lesbians of the time are experiencing.

1953: Executive Order 10450 is signed by President Dwight Eisenhower, ordering the dismissal of government workers who engage in "sexual perversion" and other immoral acts. Although the Order does not explicitly mention homosexuality, hundreds of gays and lesbians lose their job as a result.





1955: In San Francisco, activists Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon found the Daughters of Bilitis, a lesbian civil and political rights organization. The group eventually publishes a magazine, the first lesbian publication of any kind.

1956: At the meeting of the American Psychological Association, Evelyn Hooker presents research comparing the psychological health of homosexual and heterosexual men. Her results show that even skilled research experts find no differences in the mental health of these two groups.

1962: Illinois becomes the first state to decriminalize homosexual acts between two consenting adults in private. 1966: The oldest collegiate student organization for gays, the Student Homophile League, is founded at Columbia University.

1969: The Stonewall Riots, named after the historically gay-frequented bar, The Stonewall Inn, take place in Greenwich Village in New York City. Police forces had unjustly raided the establishment in the past, but on this occasion, gays protest the raids and the event becomes a pivotal, defining moment in the movement for LGBT rights.





1970: The first gay pride marches are held in multiple cities in the United States on the first anniversary of the Stonewall Riots. These are the first of many pride marches that will take place across the globe in years to come.

1973: The American Psychiatric Association removes homosexuality from the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders II, concluding that it is not a mental illness. Evelyn Hooker's pioneering research on homosexuality plays a crucial role in this decision.

1974: Elaine Noble becomes the first openly gay person to be elected as a state legislator; she serves in the Massachusetts State House of Representatives for two terms.

1975: The Bisexual Forum is founded in New York City and the Gay American Indians Organization is founded in San Francisco.



Elaine Noble



1977: Harvey Milk is elected city-county supervisor in San Francisco and becomes the third "out" elected public official in the United States. Quebec, Canada passes laws to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation in both private and public sectors.

1978: Shortly after assuming his elected role as Supervisor, Harvey Milk is assassinated along with San Francisco's Mayor Greg Moscone. Supervisor Dan White is convicted of voluntary manslaughter and is sentenced to seven years in prison. In San Francisco, the Rainbow Flag is first flown; the flag becomes a symbol of gay and lesbian pride.

1979: Over 100,000 people participate in the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. Chapters of the national organization of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) are founded across the United States.

1980: David McReynolds appears on the Socialist Party ballot, becoming the first openly gay individual to run for President of the United States.

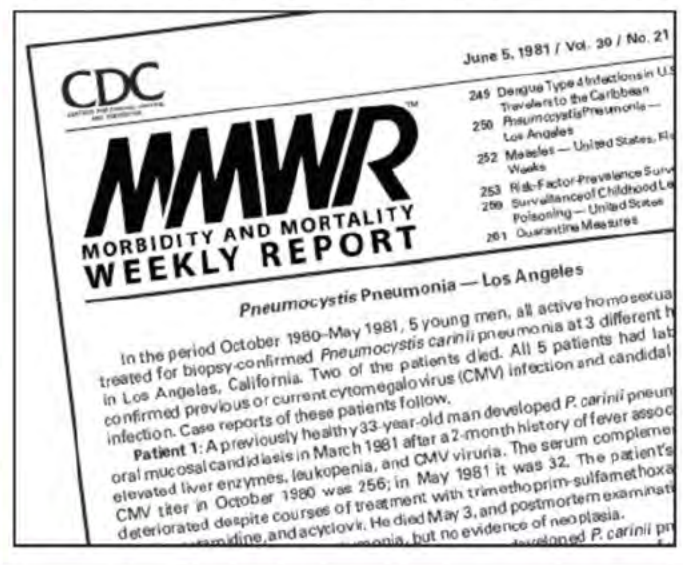


Harvey Milk



1981: A lethal virus is noticed spreading through the gay community. It is first reported in the New York Times as a rare pneumonia and skin cancer and is initially referred to by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as gay related immunodeficiency [disease] (GRID). When it is recognized that the virus is found in other populations, it is renamed the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

FIGURE. MMWR report on *Pneumocystis pneumonia* in five previously healthy young men in Los Angeles — June 5, 1981



## RARE CANCER SEEN IN 41 HOMOSEXUALS

Outbreak Occurs Among Men  
in New York and California  
— 8 Died Inside 2 Years

By LAWRENCE K. ALTMAN

Doctors in New York and California have diagnosed among homosexual men 41 cases of a rare and often rapidly fatal form of cancer. Eight of the victims died less than 24 months after the diagnosis, was made.

The cause of the outbreak is unknown, and there is as yet no evidence of contagion. But the doctors who have made the

1982: The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force initiates a project aimed to counter the rise in violence related to homophobia in the United States.

1983: The first National Lesbians of Color Conference is organized in Los Angeles.

1984: After an eight-year legal battle Duncan Donovan, a Los Angeles gay activist, wins the right to receive the death benefits of his life partner.

1986: The United States Supreme Court ruling in Bowers v. Hardwick upholds the right of each state to criminalize private same-sex acts.

1987: ACT UP is formed in order to protest inaction in response to the AIDS epidemic in the U.S. The Old Lesbians Organizing for Change (OLOC) is founded with the goal of fighting against ageism and for lesbian rights.



The Old Lesbians Organizing for Change



1992: Homosexuality is removed from the International Statistical Classification of Diseases by the World Health Organization.

1993: The Department of Defense issues the "Don't Ask Don't Tell" policy; under this policy, applicants to the U.S. Armed Forces would not be asked about nor required to disclose their sexual orientation.

1996: In the case of *Romer v. Evans*, the United States Supreme Court rules that Colorado's second amendment, which denies gays and lesbians protections against discrimination, is unconstitutional. President Clinton signs the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) into law, which defines marriage as a union between one man and one woman.

1998: Widow of the late Martin Luther King Jr., Coretta Scott King, speaks out against homophobia in America, despite receiving criticism for comparing Black civil rights to gay rights.

1999: California adopts a domestic partner law, allowing same-sex couples equal rights, responsibilities, benefits, and protections as married couples.



"Don't Ask Don't Tell"



2000: Vermont becomes the first state to legalize civil unions, a unity similar to domestic partnerships. Israel begins recognizing same-sex relationships for foreign partners of Israeli residents.

2004: Massachusetts legalizes same-sex marriage and New Jersey legalizes domestic partnerships; eleven other states ban such legal recognitions. Same-sex marriage is also banned in Australia, although the neighboring nation of New Zealand passes legislation recognizing gay civil unions.

2006: Discrimination based on sexual orientation is banned in Illinois and the State of Washington State adds sexual orientation to its existing anti-discrimination laws

2008: Proposition 8, an amendment banning same-sex marriage in California, is passed into law. This inspires the NOH8 campaign, a social project featuring celebrities who promote marriage equality.





2009: President Obama signs the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act which expands the Federal Hate Crime Law to include crimes motivated by a victim's actual or perceived gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability.

2010: The "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy is repealed following a U.S. Senate vote; gays and lesbians can now serve openly in the U.S. Armed Forces.

2011: The Obama administration states they will no longer support the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) which banned the recognition of same-sex marriages in the United States.

2013: The United States Supreme Court rules that the key parts of DOMA are unconstitutional and that gay couples are entitled to federal benefits such as Social Security survivor benefits and family leave. The Court's ruling on California's Proposition 8 results in gay marriages being resumed in that state.



# The Lavender Scare

A 1950s witch hunt that targeted and exposed thousands of gays

Interrogations of one's sexuality became commonplace in the 1950s and 1960s' federal workplace. Questions like "Do you identify as a homosexual or have you ever had same-sex sexual relations?" were commonplace as employers attempted to root out LGBT employees. This period of time is often known as the Lavender Scare—the interrogation and firing of LGBT-identifying civil servants.



# LGBT Rights Timeline



## History



## History



## History



Senator Joseph McCarthy exploited the fear of communism by stating that homosexuals working in foreign policy positions were vulnerable to blackmail by the Russians.

A special report drawn up by the senator's Republican allies, the Senate minority at the time, cited gay and lesbian workers as a potential moral threat to the workings of the government.



*McCarthy claimed that 205 communists had infiltrated the U.S. State Department and soon after claimed to have the names of 57 State Department communists, despite having little knowledge of international espionage.*



“Have you no sense of decency sir, at long last? Have you left no sense of decency?”

McCarthy hired Roy Cohn as chief counsel of his congressional subcommittee. They were responsible for the firing of approximately 425 for allegations of homosexuality.

Accusations of homosexuality were also used as a smear tactic in his crusade against communism.

<https://www.nglcc.org/blog/lgbt-history-lavender-scare..>  
<https://www.thelavenderscare.com/>

## 400 More Homosexuals Ousted from Gov't Jobs

Washington, D. C., March 25.—A prompt drive to kick 400 known homosexuals off the Government payrolls may overshadow the showdown scheduled for next week in the Congressional probe of alleged State Department Commies, it was predicted here today.

The climax in the disloyalty investigation is set for Monday, when a Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee questions FBI Chief J. Edgar Hoover on charges that his secret files prove there is a "top Russian spy" still connected with the State Department. The charges were made by Senator



Guilt by Association:  
It was said if you were  
against McCarthy, you  
were either a communist  
or a homosexual.





<https://lgbthistorymonth.com/frank-kameny>

**First White House Protest:** The U.S. government's anti-gay witch hunts ignited the gay rights movement years. This 1965 picket in front of the White House in Washington D.C. was the first demonstration of its kind.

Frank Kameny leads a picket line in front of Independence Hall in Philadelphia on July 4, 1965. Forty activists joined the protest, making it (at the time) the largest public demonstration for LGBT rights in world history.